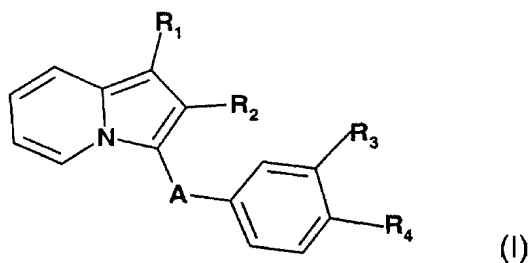


In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula I,



in which

- **R₁** represents a hydroxyl radical, a linear or branched alkoxy radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, a carboxyl radical, an alkoxy carbonyl radical of 2 to 6 carbon atoms or a radical of formula:

- -NR₅R₆
- -NH-SO₂-Alk
- -NH-SO₂-Ph
- -NH-CO-Ph
- -N(Alk)-CO-Ph
- -NH-CO-NH-Ph
- -NH-CO-Alk
- -NH-CO₂-Alk
- -O-(CH₂)_n-cAlk
- -O-Alk-COOR₇
- -O-Alk-O-R₈
- -O-Alk-OH
- -O-Alk-C(NH₂):NOH
- -O-Alk-NR₅R₆
- -O-Alk-CN
- -O-(CH₂)_n-Ph

- -O-Alk-CO-NR₅R₆
- -CO-NH-(CH₂)_m-COOR₇
- -CO-NH-Alk

in which

- Alk represents an alkyl radical or a linear or branched alkylene radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms,
- cAlk represents a cycloalkyl radical of 3 to 6 carbon atoms,
- n represents an integer from 0 to 5,
- m represents an integer from 1 to 5,
- R₅ and R₆, which are identical or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a linear or branched alkyl radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms or a benzyl radical,
- R₇ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms,
- R₈ represents an alkyl radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms or a radical -CO-Alk,
- Ph represents a phenyl radical which is optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms, with one or more alkoxy radicals of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, with one or more carboxyl radicals or with one or more alkoxycarbonyl radicals of 2 to 6 carbon atoms,
- **R₂** represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, a haloalkyl radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms containing 3 to 5 halogen atoms, a cycloalkyl radical of 3 to 6 carbon atoms or a phenyl radical which is optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms, with one or more alkoxy radicals of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, with one or more carboxyl radicals or with one or more alkoxycarbonyl radicals of 2 to 6 carbon atoms,
- **A** represents a radical -CO-, [[-SO- or -SO₂-],]
- **R₃** and **R₄**, which are identical or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, an alkoxy radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, an amino radical, a carboxyl radical, an alkoxycarbonyl radical of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, a hydroxyl radical, a nitro radical, a hydroxyamino radical, a radical of formula
 - -Alk-COOR₇

- $\text{-NR}_5\text{R}_6$
- -NH-Alk-COOR_7
- -NH-COO-Alk
- $\text{-N(R}_{11}\text{)-SO}_2\text{-Alk-NR}_9\text{R}_{10}$
- $\text{-N(R}_{11}\text{)-SO}_2\text{-Alk}$
- $\text{-N(R}_{11}\text{)-Alk-NR}_5\text{R}_6$
- $\text{-N(R}_{11}\text{)-CO-Alk-NR}_9\text{R}_{10}$
- $\text{-N(R}_{11}\text{)-CO-Alk}$
- $\text{-N(R}_{11}\text{)-CO-CF}_3$
- -NH-Alk-HetN
- $\text{-O-Alk-NR}_9\text{R}_{10}$
- $\text{-O-Alk-CO-NR}_5\text{R}_6$
- -O-Alk-HetN

in which n, m, Alk, R_5 , R_6 and R_7 have the meaning given above for R_1 , and

- R_9 and R_{10} , which are identical or different, each represent a hydrogen atom or an alkyl radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms,
- R_{11} represents a hydrogen atom or a radical -Alk-COOR_{12} where R_{12} represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms or a benzyl radical,
- HetN represents a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle containing at least one nitrogen atom and optionally another heteroatom chosen from nitrogen and oxygen,

or R_3 and R_4 form together a 5- to 6-membered unsaturated heterocycle,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

provided, however, that when R_3 represents an alkoxy radical and R_4 represents a radical $\text{-O-Alk-NR}_9\text{R}_{10}$ or a hydroxyl radical, R_1 does not represent an alkoxy radical, and provided that when R_1 is an alkoxycarbonyl radical, and R_2 is hydrogen or methyl, then at least one of R_3 and R_4 is other than hydrogen, and provided that the compound of formula I is other than [4-[3-(dibutylamino)propoxy]phenyl](2-ethyl-1-hydroxy-3-indolizinyI)methanone or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Claim 1, in which

- R_1 represents a hydroxyl radical, a linear or branched alkoxy radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, a carboxyl radical, an alkoxycarbonyl radical of 2 to 6 carbon atoms or a radical of formula:
 - $-NR_5R_6$
 - $-NH-SO_2-Alk$
 - $-NH-SO_2-Ph$
 - $-NH-CO-Ph$
 - $-N(Alk)-CO-Ph$
 - $-NH-CO-NH-Ph$
 - $-NH-CO-Alk$
 - $-NH-CO_2-Alk$
 - $-O-(CH_2)_n-cAlk$
 - $-O-Alk-COOR_7$
 - $-O-Alk-O-R_8$
 - $-O-Alk-OH$
 - $-O-Alk-NR_5R_6$
 - $-O-Alk-CN$
 - $-O-(CH_2)_n-Ph$
 - $-O-Alk-CO-NR_5R_6$
 - $-CO-NH-(CH_2)_m-COOR_7$
 - $-CO-NH-Alk$

in which

- Alk represents an alkyl radical or a linear or branched alkylene radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms,
- cAlk represents a cycloalkyl radical of 3 to 6 carbon atoms,
- n represents an integer from 0 to 5,
- m represents an integer from 1 to 5,

- R_5 and R_6 , which are identical or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a linear or branched alkyl radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms or a benzyl radical,
 - R_7 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms,
 - R_8 represents an alkyl radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms or a radical -CO-Alk,
 - Ph represents a phenyl radical which is optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms, with one or more alkoxy radicals of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, with one or more carboxyl radicals or with one or more alkoxycarbonyl radicals of 2 to 6 carbon atoms,
- R_2 represents an alkyl radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, a trifluoromethyl radical, a cycloalkyl radical of 3 to 6 carbon atoms or a phenyl radical which is optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms, with one or more alkoxy radicals of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, with one or more carboxyl radicals or with one or more alkoxycarbonyl radicals of 2 to 6 carbon atoms,
- A represents a radical -CO- [[or -SO₂-]],
- R_3 and R_4 , which are identical or different each represent a hydrogen atom, an alkoxy radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, an amino radical, a carboxyl radical, an alkoxycarbonyl radical of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, a nitro radical, a hydroxyamino radical, a radical of formula
- -Alk-COOR₇
 - -NR₅R₆
 - -NH-Alk-COOR₇
 - -NH-COO-Alk
 - -N(R₁₁)-SO₂-Alk-NR₉R₁₀
 - -N(R₁₁)-SO₂-Alk
 - -N(R₁₁)-Alk-NR₅R₆
 - -N(R₁₁)-CO-Alk-NR₉R₁₀
 - -N(R₁₁)-CO-Alk
 - -N(R₁₁)-CO-CF₃
 - -NH-Alk-HetN
- in which n, m, Alk, R_5 , R_6 and R_7 have the meaning given above for R_1 , and

- R_9 and R_{10} , which are identical or different, each represent a hydrogen atom or an alkyl radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms,
- R_{11} represents a hydrogen atom or a radical $-Alk-COOR_{12}$ where R_{12} represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms or a benzyl radical,
- HetN represents a 5- or 6-membered heterocycle containing at least one nitrogen atom and optionally another heteroatom chosen from nitrogen and oxygen.

3. (Previously presented) A compound according to Claim 2 wherein

- R_1 represents an alkoxy radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, a carboxyl radical, a radical $-O-Alk-COOH$ in which Alk represents an alkylene radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, a radical of formula $-O-Alk-Ph$ in which Alk represents an alkylene radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms and Ph represents a phenyl radical which is optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms or with one or more alkoxy radicals of 1 to 5 carbon atoms or with one or more carboxyl radicals, a radical of formula $-NH-CO-Ph$, a radical of formula $-NH-SO_2-Ph$ or a radical of formula $-NH-CO-NH-Ph$,
- R_2 represents an alkyl radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms,
- A represents a radical $-CO-$, and
- R_3 and R_4 , which are different, each represent a hydrogen atom, an alkoxy radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, an amino radical, a carboxyl radical or an alkoxycarbonyl radical of 2 to 6 carbon atoms.

4. (Previously presented) A compound according to Claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

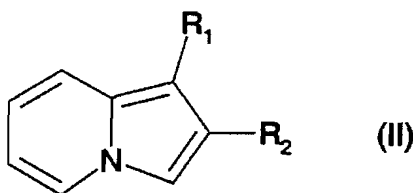
- (4-amino-3-methoxyphenyl)(1-methoxy-2-methylindolizin-3-yl)methanone,
- 3-(4-amino-3-methoxybenzoyl)-2-methylindolizin-1-yl carboxylic acid,
- 2-{[3-(4-amino-3-methoxybenzoyl)-2-methylindolizin-1-yl]oxy}acetic acid,
- (4-amino-3-methoxyphenyl){1-[(4-chlorobenzyl)oxy]-2-methylindolizin-3-yl}methanone,
- (4-amino-3-methoxyphenyl){1-[(3-methoxybenzyl)oxy]-2-methylindolizin-3-yl}methanone,
- 4-({[3-(4-amino-3-methoxybenzoyl)-2-methylindolizin-1-yl]oxy}methyl)benzoic acid,

- 3-(4-carboxybenzoyl)-2-methylindolizin-1-yl carboxylic acid,
- methyl 3-[(1-methoxy-2-methylindolizin-3-yl)carbonyl]benzoate,
- 4-[(1-methoxy-2-methylindolizin-3-yl)carbonyl]benzoic acid,
- 2-amino-5-[(1-methoxy-2-methylindolizin-3-yl)carbonyl]benzoic acid,
- 2-amino-5-({1-[(3-methoxybenzoyl)amino]-2-methylindolizin-3-yl}carbonyl)benzoic acid,
- 2-amino-5-({2-methyl-1-[(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzoyl)amino]indolizin-3-yl}carbonyl)benzoic acid, and
- 2-amino-5-({1-[(3-methoxyphenyl)sulphonyl]amino}-2-methylindolizin-3-yl}carbonyl)benzoic acid

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

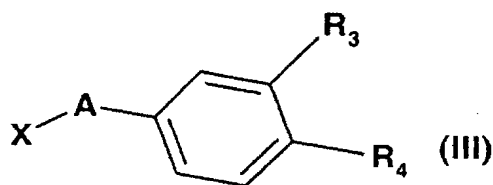
5. (Previously presented) A method for preparing the compounds according to Claim 1 wherein

A) an indolizine derivative of formula II,

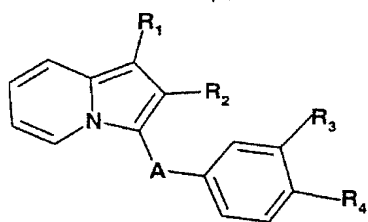


in which R₁ and R₂ have the meaning given for formula I, but R₂ does not represent a hydrogen atom or a haloalkyl radical,

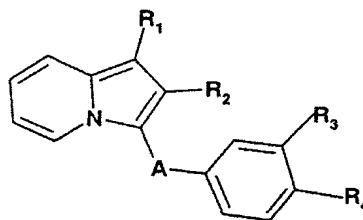
is condensed with a derivative of formula III,



in which X represents a halogen atom and R_3 or R_4 , which are identical or different, each represent a hydrogen atom, a nitro radical, a trifluoroacetamido radical or an alkoxy carbonyl radical of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, in order to obtain the compounds of formula Ia, Id or Ik,



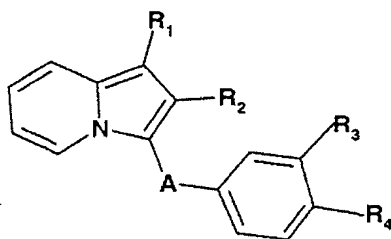
(Ia)



(Id)

R_3 and/or $R_4 = \text{NO}_2$

R_3 and/or $R_4 = -\text{CO}_2\text{Alkyl}$

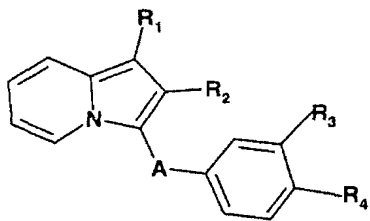


(Ik)

R_3 and/or $R_4 = -\text{NH}-\text{COCF}_3$

and then,

- a) the compounds of formula Ia are subjected to a reduction in order to obtain the compounds of formula Ib,



(Ib)

R_3 and/or $R_4 = -\text{NH}_2$

in which R_3 and/or R_4 represent an amino radical, which compounds of formula Ib then

- are subjected to the action of an alkyl halide in order to obtain the compounds of formula I in which R_4 and/or R_3 represent a radical $-NR_5R_6$ (in which R_5 represents a hydrogen atom and R_6 represents an alkyl radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms) and a radical $-NH-Alk-NR_5R_6$ or a radical $-NH-Alk-COOR_7$ (in which R_7 does not represent a hydrogen atom) from which, by a subsequent saponification, the compounds of formula I are obtained in which R_4 and/or R_3 represent a radical $-NH-Alk-COOR_7$ in which R_7 represents a hydrogen atom,

or

- are subjected to acylation in order to obtain the compounds of formula I in which R_4 and/or R_3 represent a radical $-NH-CO-Alk$, or a radical $-NH-CO-Alk-NR_9R_{10}$, which are then subjected to alkylation in order to obtain a radical $-N(R_{11})-CO-Alk$ or a radical $-N(R_{11})-CO-Alk-NR_9R_{10}$ where R_{11} represents a radical $-Alk-COOR_{12}$ in which R_{12} does not represent a hydrogen atom, the latter compounds are then optionally subjected to saponification in order to obtain the compounds of formula I in which R_4 and/or R_3 represent a radical $-N(R_{11})-CO-Alk$ or a radical $-N(R_{11})-CO-Alk-NR_9R_{10}$ where R_{11} represents a radical $-Alk-COOH$,

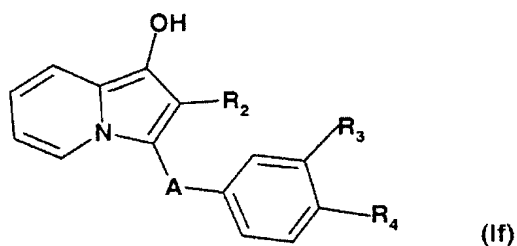
or

- are subjected to sulphonylation in order to obtain the compounds of formula I in which R_4 and/or R_3 represent a radical $-NH-SO_2-Alk$ or a radical $-NH-SO_2-Alk-NR_9R_{10}$, which are then subjected to alkylation in order to obtain a radical $-N(R_{11})-SO_2-Alk$ or a radical $-N(R_{11})-SO_2-Alk-NR_9R_{10}$ where R_{11} represents a radical $-Alk-COOR_{12}$ in which R_{12} does not represent a hydrogen atom, the latter compounds are then optionally subjected to saponification in order to obtain the compounds of formula I in which R_4 and/or R_3 represent a radical $-N(R_{11})-SO_2-Alk$ or a radical $-N(R_{11})-SO_2-Alk-NR_9R_{10}$ where R_{11} represents a radical $-Alk-COOH$

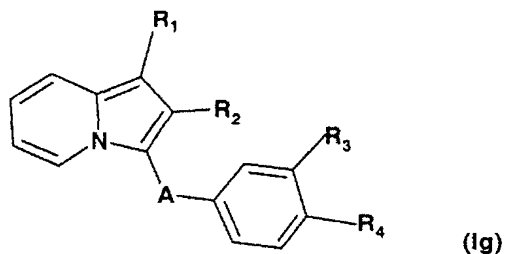
b) the compounds of formula Id in which R_3 and/or R_4 represent an alkoxycarbonyl radical are subjected to saponification in order to obtain the compounds of formula I in which R_3 and/or R_4 represent a carboxyl radical,

or

c) when R_1 represents a benzyloxy radical, the compounds of formula Ia are subjected to the action of trifluoroacetic acid or the compounds of formula Id to hydrogenation, in order to obtain the compounds of formula If,



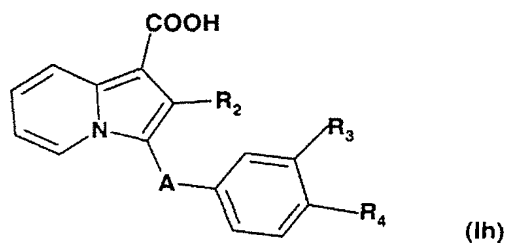
and then the compounds of formula If are subjected to O-alkylation in order to obtain the compounds of formula Ig,



in which R_3 and/or R_4 have the meanings given above, and R_1 represents a linear or branched alkoxy radical of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, a radical $-O-(CH_2)_n-cAlk$, a radical $-O-Alk-COOR_7$, a radical $-O-Alk-NR_5R_6$, a radical $-O-(CH_2)_n-Ph$, or a radical $-O-Alk-O-R_8$ – which, when R_8 represents a radical $-COCH_3$, can give, by subsequent saponification, a radical $-O-Alk-OH$ –, or a radical $-O-Alk-CN$ which, by treatment with hydroxylamine, gives a radical $-O-Alk-C(NH_2)=NOH$,

or

d) when R_1 represents an alkoxycarbonyl radical, the compounds of formula Ia are subjected to saponification in order to obtain the compounds of formula Ih,

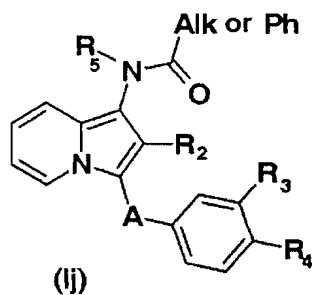
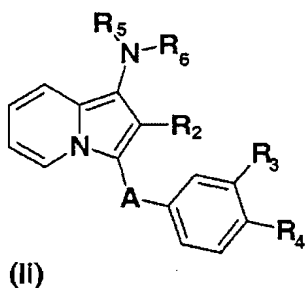


which are then subjected to the action of an amine derivative in order to obtain the compounds of formula I in which R_1 represents a radical $-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-\text{Alk}$, or to the action of an amino acid derivative in order to obtain the compounds of formula I in which R_1 represents a radical $-\text{CO}-\text{NH}-(\text{CH}_2)_m-\text{COOR}_7$

or

e) when R_1 represents a radical $-\text{NH}-\text{CO}_2\text{tButyl}$, the compounds of formula Ia or Id are subjected

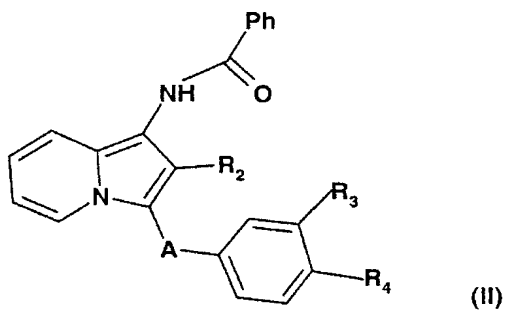
- either to alkylation followed by deprotection and an optional second alkylation in order to obtain the compounds of formula Ii,
- or to deprotection, followed by acylation in order to obtain the compounds of formula Ij in which R_5 represents a hydrogen atom, followed by an optional alkylation in order to obtain the compounds of formula Ij in which R_5 represents an alkyl radical



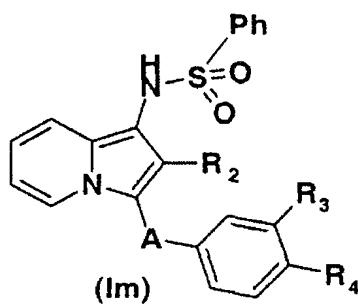
or

f) when R_1 represents a radical $-NH-CO_2t\text{Butyl}$, the compounds of formula **Ik** are subjected

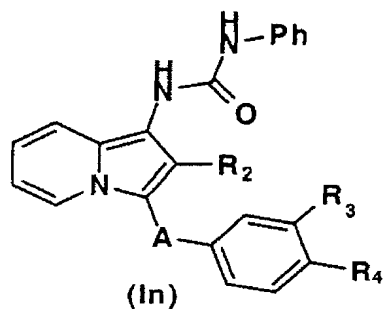
- either to deprotection, followed by acylation in order to obtain the compounds of formula II



- or to deprotection followed by sulfonylation in order to obtain the compounds of formula Im

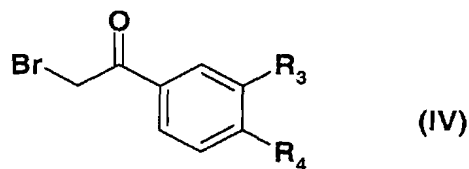


- or to deprotection, followed by a treatment with a phenyl isocyanate in order to obtain the compounds of formula In

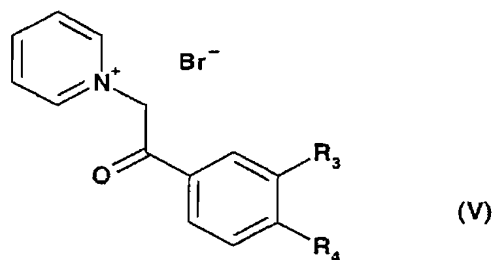


OR

B) when R_1 represents an electron-attracting group, R_2 represents a hydrogen atom or a haloalkyl radical and A represents a radical $-CO-$, pyridine is reacted with a bromoacetophenone of formula IV,



in order to obtain the compounds of formula V,



which are then subjected to a 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition with ethyl acrylate or a halogenated derivative of ethyl crotonate in the presence of an oxidizing agent in order to obtain the

compounds of formula Ia in which R_1 represents an ethoxycarbonyl radical and R_2 represents a hydrogen atom or a haloalkyl radical.

6 to 12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

14. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 4 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

15 to 30. (Cancelled)